



Pantry Partner

C/O North Dakota Community Action Association

Hunger in the Heartland: A North Dakota World Food Day Event



The Hunger in the Heartland Conference, held in conjunction with World Food day, is slated for October 13 & 14 at the Holiday Inn in Grand Forks. The conference will address the problem of food insecurity, both locally and nationally. It will highlight efforts underway to deal with food insecurity in North Dakota. The question, "Where do we go from here?", will be an integral part of the Conference, bringing ownership of the problem to all stakeholders.

The conference will bring people from across North

Dakota—from private organizations, food producing groups, schools, government agencies, and non-profit service providers—to address the issue of food security.

The agenda includes break-out sessions on securing support for hunger relief programs, the food stamp program, assessing household food security, and much more.

Seven continuing education units are available to social workers and units for dieticians are currently pending. There is no registration fee—but pre-registration is required.

Travel stipends are available for those participants

without organizational support. Hotel rooms are reserved at the Holiday Inn at the state rate of \$45 + tax. For more information or to register for this great networking and problem-solving conference contact:

Terry Steinke
Red River Valley
Community Action
1013 N 5th Street
Grand Forks ND
58203

Email:
tsteinke@rrvca.com or
1-800-450-1823

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- *A Young Man from Maddock North Dakota Initiates Hunger Relief Effort*
- *Venison Donation Program*



CACFP for Children & Youth in Homeless, Runaway, and Domestic Violence Shelters Outreach Toolkit

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), a federal entitlement, is an important resource for feeding children and youth in homeless and runaway shelters, domestic violence shelters and some transitional housing. Recently, Congress extended food program eligibility for children in shelters from up to 13 years of age to 18 and younger. The change

is effective October 1, 2004. This change will provide much needed assistance to teenagers.

A new Outreach Toolkit provides tools for state agencies, homeless, runaway, and domestic violence advocates, and anti-hunger groups to maximize the use of the homeless shelter option in CACFP. The toolkit contains program information, outreach and training

materials, research and background information, and links to other important information and organizations.

For more information contact:

202-986-2200 ext. 3025
or email:
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Concerned High School FFA President Spearheads Hunger Relief Effort

Reprinted from ND Associated Press



When Jeff Wald, president of the Maddock FFA Chapter returned from an FFA leadership conference in Washington, DC, this summer, he came home with a mission.

He decided that FFA chapters across North Dakota could make a big difference and were the perfect vehicle to help combat hunger in North Dakota.

Armed with hunger statistics from the Great Plains Food Bank in Fargo, Wald set out to make a difference through an initiative he calls "Harvest for Life." This program calls FFA chapters across the state to participate in a state-wide community service project. The ultimate objective of the project will be to help stock the shelves of food pantries across the state through the

collection of food and/or donations. Each participating FFA chapter will implement a plan that best reflects the needs and resources of their community. For some Chapters in farming areas, it may be the actual collecting of truck loads of donated grain, beans, or corn from area farmers. But farmers are not the only people who can help and become involved. Other chapters may work through grocery stores and retailers to collect nonperishable food donations to help fill their local pantry.

Whatever the method, Wald hopes to make a difference. He said, "FFA is a prime outlet for youth to become involved with helping others. Through service, youth learn to value hard work, helping others, and being thankful for what they have. "Living to Serve" is the last and greatest line of the FFA

motto. Once youth become involved in service, they often never look back."

The Harvest for Life project will work in partnership with the Great Plains Food Bank. Other partners include: ND Grain Growers Assoc., ND Farmers Union, the US Durum Growers Assoc., ND Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Assoc., the ND Beef Commission, ND Farm Bureau, and the NoDak Mutual Insurance Company.

For more information or to make donations contact your local FFA chapter. For more information about the Harvest for Life Project call

Jeff Wald at
701-438-2634 or email him
at jeff_34_wald@hotmail.com
or go to the web site:
www.ndffaoundation.com

Get Involved with School Lunch Program

Now that school is back in session, it is a great time for parents and community groups to get involved with the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. Methods that can increase community involvement include:

- Participating in local school board and PTA / PTO meetings and seeking the commitment of the school to improving meal quality and providing a healthy eating environment.
- Building partnerships between school staff, local businesses, community leaders, parents and students to strengthen program service and nutrition education.
- Linking agriculture to the classroom through a school garden project, farmers market activity, or consumption of locally grown products.
- Visiting school cafeterias—having lunch with children and showing appreciation to the school cafeteria workers.

North Dakota Community Action Association Encourages Venison Donation Programs



The North Dakota Community Action Association is encouraging sporting groups, community members, and nonprofit organizations to start a

Sportsmen Against Hunger Chapter in their community. These chapters develop partnerships with emergency food providers, a USDA approved meat processor, and local hunters.

The Chapter encourages hunters to donate venison to be processed and distributed to needy families and individuals in the community.

Processed venison is acceptable for distribution by emergency food outlets. The meat must be processed and packaged at a USDA approved facility. Chapters can negotiate a reduced processing fee with the meat processor. Processing fees can either be donated by the hunter (tax-deductible) or raised via a community fundraiser. The North Dakota Community Action Association also has matching grants

available. In addition, the North Dakota Community Action Association has posters, brochures, a database of emergency food providers capable of accepting venison donations, and Hunger Free Community Resource Guides containing a variety of helpful information.

If you are interested in starting a Chapter, accessing matching grant dollars, or informational materials please contact:

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2105 Lee Avenue
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1-800-223-0364
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QUICK BITS

- Outreach materials, promising practices, and lessons learned in food stamp outreach are available online at: www.fns.usda.gov
- NDSU Extension Service produces a great newsletter called *Father Times*. The newsletter is a great resource for fathers and father figures of young children. It provides a practical father-friendly approach to sharing information and ideas. To obtain a copy of the newsletter contact 701-231-8113.
- October 19-23 is the National Association of Farmers' Market Nutrition Program annual conference in Hershey, PA. For more information contact 703-837-0451.
- Leadership Test: Leaders continually ask "What are my organization's purposes and objectives?" and "What qualifies as acceptable performance and adds to the bottom line?"



Feeding Minds, Fighting Hunger

Feeding Minds Fighting Hunger is a worldwide educational initiative about hunger issues for school children of all ages. The project provides classroom materials to teachers to help children and youth discuss and understand the problem of hunger in the world. The goal is to encourage children to help in the creation of a hunger-free world. Three sets of lessons have been developed for each of the three school levels—primary, intermediate, and secondary—all of which cover the topics of:

- What are hunger and malnutrition?
- Who are the hungry?
- Why are people hungry and malnourished?
- What can we do to help end hunger?

Each lesson contains background information for teachers and outlines the main objectives, concepts and content areas to be covered. Hunger maps, class activities, and discussion points are provided. For more information contact Patricia Young at 202-653-2404 or also online at:

www.feedingminds.org



Unique Fundraiser Idea

Tired of holding the same old "auction" to raise funding for your organization? Try holding a "job auction." Hold an auction that sells opportunities to hold various jobs for a day. These jobs may include: local radio / TV hosts, business leaders, policy makers, director of the local emergency food pantry, and other unique careers. Participants will have a great learning experience while raising money for your cause!

Minnesota Attempts to Bar Junk Food Purchases

In an effort to address the growing problem of obesity, Minnesota's Department of Human Services recently requested approval from the US Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service to limit the types of foods participants in the Food Stamp Program can purchase.

Minnesota requested a waiver from federal program requirements to allow them to prohibit the use of food stamps to purchase junk food, such as candy and soft drinks. The request was denied by USDA.

While no other state has requested a similar waiver to date, USDA reports that other states may also have been considering a similar approach. In the denial letter, USDA stated, "We applaud the State for recognizing the importance of healthy eating by food stamp recipients. However, we believe that supporting healthier food choices through nutrition education and promotion is preferable to the proposed mandate. We are committed to working with the State to develop new approaches to improving the nutrition levels of food stamp

recipients." America's Second Harvest, a national association for local food banks, lauds USDA's decision because it would create a stigma and unnecessarily limit recipients' food choices. "In the end, the noble goal of trying to reduce obesity should apply to all people, not just the poor. Nobody will stop a middle-income person from buying whatever they want," notes a America's Second Harvest spokesperson.

*Information provided from the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies Food Journal.



Information Request

For any additional information or to submit a news bit for the next newsletter, please complete this form and return it the address listed below.

Please send me additional information on:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Action | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Gleaning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Dialog Workshop | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: please specify | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Needs Assessment Study |

- ☐ I would like to contribute a story, or news bit for the next newsletter. Please contact me.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Comments:

Fargo Church Helps Fight Hunger with Garden



Concerned members of the Messiah Lutheran Church in Fargo saw a need in their community and decided to work together to make a difference. A program called "Grow a Row for the Hungry" was created to grow fresh produce for local emergency food providers. The project is similar to a national program started in 1995 by Garden Writers of America.

The congregation's garden found a home at the Children's Museum at Yunker Farm in Fargo. Donations and volunteers helped make the project become a reality.

The garden project has turned into an educational tool as well as a food source. Persons of all ages assist with the garden and learn to work together as a team.

The project can be replicated in any community. For more information contact the Messiah Lutheran Church at 701-237-6770 or check out the Garden Writers of America website at:

www.gardenwriters.org/Par/Campaign.

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Assistance Available to Farmers & Ranchers

Eligible farmers and ranchers can access Emergency Loan Assistance from USDA for damages and losses caused by drought, late season frost, high winds, flooding, storms, ice, snow, and severe temperatures that occurred from January 1st, 2004 forward. Assistance applications are available from local Farm Service Agencies through April 11, 2005.



RESOURCE TOOL: **Making Ends Meet: How to Budget When You Don't Have Enough Money!**

A great family budgeting booklet, *Making Ends Meet* is now available from the organization Making Ends Meet. The booklet has basic bill-paying tools and a year's worth of budget worksheets. It is a cost-effective way to help families gain control of their finances. A free copy for review is available by contacting Making Ends Meet, PO Box 25, Fergus Falls, MN 56537 or fax: 218-739-3971

Financial Service Solutions for Nonprofits



Bremer Bank and the North Dakota Association of Non-profit Organizations (NDANO) are pleased to announce a new partnership that provides financial service solutions to members of NDANO. NDANO members can take advantage of special discounts and bonuses on products and services offered through Bremer Bank that can help you reach your financial goals including: Checking account bonuses, certificate of deposit bonuses, merchant services discounts, line of credit discounts, and employee benefit banking. Members of NDANO can also benefit from a number of different services including training opportunities, discounts, advocacy issues and much more. To learn more about becoming a NDANO member contact: 701-250-9101 or 1-888-396-3266.



Foundation Spotlight: Starbucks Foundation

The Starbucks foundation funds local programs that serve low-income, at-risk youth through its Youth Leadership grant program. Grants range from \$5,000-\$20,000. For more information check online at: www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp

North Dakota Volunteer Organizations Aiding in Disasters (ND VOAD)

The ND VOAD is a group of organizations and individuals dedicated to sharing resources and meeting needs when disaster strikes. The group meets quarterly and always welcomes new members. The next meeting is scheduled for October 21st at 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Lantern Room located in the Jamestown Mall (downtown). For more information about ND VOAD contact Keith Engbrecht, chair, at kengbrecht@ndredcross.org



Opportunity to Honor Youth Leadership


Service Do Something is a national nonprofit organization that inspires young people to believe that change is possible and trains, funds, and mobilizes them to be leaders who measurably strengthen their communities. The organization awards *BRICK* Awards to honor dynamic young people for service in the areas of community building, health, and the environment. Each award includes a \$5000 higher education scholarship, a \$5000 grant for continued community work, pro bono services, and other support and recognition. Young people 18 years old or younger throughout the country are eligible to apply. The application deadline is November 1. For more information check out:

www.dosomething.org/brick-awards.htm

North Dakota Human Rights Coalition 2nd Annual Conference

The conference entitled "Human Rights: The Economic Impact of Discrimination" is scheduled for November 5-6 at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck. For more information go online to the ND Human Rights Coalition website at:

www.ndhrc.org



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.NDCAA.ORG

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